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Greetings HPOA Board,

I wanted to express appreciation to John Tronson and Mark Stephenson for travelling all the way to Van Nuys last evening to attend the second of four hearings organized by the Chief Legislative Analyst's (CLA) office. (Leron was also there from the Chamber.) The purpose is to seek the public's input on a proposed sidewalk vending ordinance for the city. The Hollywood Entertainment District joined the Coalition to Save Small Business, organized under the leadership of the Central City Association, a few months ago, as you recall.

<http://labusinessjournal.com/news/2015/may/27/small-business-owners-form-coalition-protest-legal/>

Here is a recent article from the Downtown News, that starts to address some of the more specific ideas floated by the CLA office (up to now, it has been a conceptual discussion). It also references the concerns of BIDs for their small business community and the impact on sidewalks.

http://www.ladowntownnews.com/news/debate-over-street-vending-heats-up/article_1f1bcb2a-0bd3-11e5-ab5d-2f19cd7f8b1a.html

There is also a Facebook page to like which will curate this information

<https://www.facebook.com/SaveSmallBusinessLA>

The Central City Association has been paying the freight associated with the organizing campaign to oppose this ordinance and has asked other BIDs to help. Earlier this week the Sunset & Vine BID authorized a contribution of \$2,500 toward the organizing effort. I'll be placing a similar ask on the HED agenda next week.

As John and Mark will attest, this was probably the most disrespectful public hearing they ever attended. I know Alyssa and Devin (and Nicole from the Chamber) had a similar experience in May. Gratefully, however, neither John nor I were booed as was the case in their hearing. However, emotions run high on this issue, and it is going to be very important for the business community to find its voice on this issue -- or this will not end well.

Finally, here is a short news clip from last night's hearing, from Fox News.

<http://www.myfoxla.com/story/29302898/should-street-vending-be-legalized>

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